

MRRA Membership Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Present: B. Shew, T. Freeman, P. Landry, W. Breiland, S. Kuhn, K. Springer, B. Chapman, K. Scammell, B. Sengstaken, D. Semonian, C. Masors, J. Decarolis, J. Breiland, A. Hutchinson, J. Lafreniere, K. McGowan, J. Nehring, B. Mack, C. Popolo, L. Freeman, B. Lynch, M. Lynch

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 by K. Scammell

Safety Message:

A recent increase in debris in the river and resulting damage to boats noted. In particular there is a log past the booms and debris caught in the race lanes. Please be cautious, report debris so that it can be marked. In the event of damage, there are forms and procedures in the Emergency section of the MRRA website.

May Meeting Minutes:

Accepted as presented

Festival Regatta:

D. Semonian provided an update on Festival Regatta preparations. Regatta jobs were confirmed with the Open Sweep team.

Discussed launch requirements for the regatta. Need at least seven and arrangements for filling tanks were made.

Members need to sign up by this Thursday, June 14th for races. If planning to race club notes, need to submit request to the Boat Captain ASAP.

Discussion regarding removal of items that are currently blocking the closet which needs to be accessible by June 22.

Discussed combining some handicapped races to decrease the number of races when there are small numbers of boats. Will continue handicap discussions before the 2019 Regatta i.e. if people race a category down, does the handicap still apply?

Textile River Regatta:

Discussed the need to add an additional TRR Board Member. If anyone is interested or would like to suggest a nominee, please e-mail President@merrimacrowing.org.

Committee Updates:

Equipment – Oars are here and need to be painted. A call for volunteers went out last week with limited response. Several members offered to help this weekend.

Safety:

There was a question posed regarding jet ski legislation. J. Lafreniere reported that while the statute is on the books, the state did not approve. The City of Lowell did approve funding for a boat and increased patrols are planned for the river.

A question was raised regarding concern over rowers logged out for extended periods of time.

Suggestion was made to see if boats are out of the boathouse. Emergency contact information will be posted in the boathouse so that the member can be called to confirm that they are in fact off the water and just forgot to sign back in.

Membership Programs:

18 Learn to Sweep participants

14 Masters Sweep

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsey Shew, MRRRA Secretary.